

“The Nazareth Sermon”

After Touring the Region The Savior Returns Home

Luke 4:17-31

Doctor Luke carefully selected this “Nazareth sermon” (see also Matt. 13:54-58; Mark 6:1-6) to introduce Jesus’ formal public ministry. That’s because Jesus sat in the ‘Moses seat’ of Nazareth’s synagogue (v 20) – possibly at the site of the Synagogue Church -- and declared himself to be the Messiah (v 18a, 21). In addition, this sermon laid out four covenant theological principles, the last of which prompted the violent rejection at Nazareth that actually endangered Jesus’ life. This final point aroused the ‘wrath’ (v 28) of everyone there, leading to Jesus’ departure into Capernaum 30 miles to the northwest. Consider today the hardness of human hearts and Jesus’ persistence in proclaiming the truth of God’s plan of redemption.

I. Many hearers will _____ but persist in _____ and _____ (v 22, 28).

- 1) The Synagogue Church stands in the _____ of modern day Nazareth.
- 2) The Nazarenes _____ the sermon but rejected its _____ message.
- 3) Jesus’ ‘_____ words’ rung in this small place chiding Jewish _____.

II. Jesus’ _____ functioned as the _____ of Scripture (v 21).

- 1) Jesus was no _____ (Mt. 5:17) but the _____ of Biblical prophecies.
- 2) He took a risk _____ this staggering announcement (Mk. 6:3).

III. Jesus showed concern for the _____ and the _____ (v 18-19).

- 1) His ministry will be marked by _____ and _____ focused on the poor.
- 2) He leads us into taking _____ for those suffering.
- 3) Grow in your _____ to the poor, and imitate Jesus’ _____.

IV. Jesus’ ultimate aim _____ among the people of God (v 26-27).

- 1) He argued from 1 Kings 17 and 2 Kings 5 the Gospel was _____ for Gentiles.
- 2) God’s mercy is displayed to the lowest _____ and the mightiest _____.
- 3) The Nazarene _____ endangered his life. _____ doesn’t surprise us.